

THE BOOK OF DANIEL
"The Backbone of Prophecy"
Daniel 9:20-27

Introduction

1. Bible study leads to prayer; prayer leads to an understanding of the purpose of God (vv. 20-23). Note these blessed features:

- a. Daniel prayed fervently (v. 20).
- b. Daniel prayed regularly (v. 21).
- c. Daniel prayed successfully (vv. 22, 23).

2. Because of the importance of this section, Sir Edward Denny has referred to it by the title of this sermon. Indeed, without an understanding of these verses, a large portion of prophetic truth becomes unintelligible. Let us note the mechanics of the prophecy:

1. IDENTIFICATION OF TERMS.

The following terms need careful understanding to interpret the text properly.

- a. Weeks (v. 24). Heb. word is "sevens" for which see the R.V.
- b. ~~Thy~~ My people (v. 24). Here is a specific reference to Israel. It is totally unrealistic Bible study to make this a reference to Gentiles or the Church! Daniel's prayer was for Israel (vv. 1-19) and the prophecy concerns the same people.
- c. The holy city (v. 24). Could only mean the city of Jerusalem (cf. v. 25).
- f. The most Holy (v. 24). Designates a most holy place. Terms related to the tabernacle.
- g. Messiah the Prince (v. 25). The personal Messiah, even our Lord Jesus is in view.
- h. Prince that shall come (v. 26). The final personal antichrist. Here is the little horn of Daniel 7.
- i. The covenant (v. 27). This is "a" covenant and refers to one to come, not to one previously made with Israel.
- j. The week (v. 27). Literally "the seven", that is, the last 7 of the 70 sevens. This is the Tribulation Period.

2. IDENTIFICATION OF TIMES.

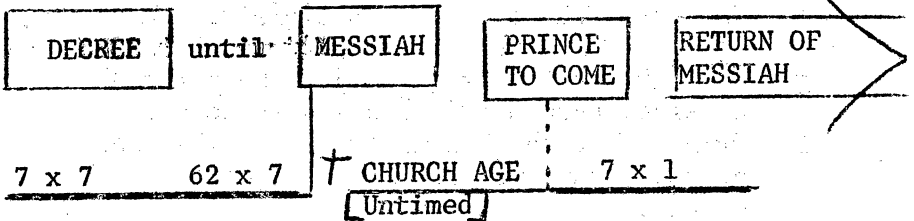
The text of the Word provides specific time periods. Days cannot be understood (cf. 10:2, 3 with Gen. 29:27). Note them:

- a. Sixty-two weeks (v. 25). Forty-nine years in which Jerusalem was reconstructed.
- b. Sixty-two weeks (v. 25). Four hundred and thirty-four years concluded the cutting off of Messiah.
- c. One week (v. 27). Seven years in which anti-christ makes and breaks his covenant.
- d. Gap (or intercalatial period). After the 69th week and before the 70th week.

Conclusion. For those who love the Lord, these prophetic matters give spiritual information and are designed to purify one's life (1 John 3:3). To those who are unsaved and who have not yet taken our Lord as Saviour, surely these truths demonstrate the perfect accuracy of the Word of God. Its message is just as true concerning the coming eternal punishment for those who spurn God's salvation (2 Thess. 1:7-9).

DISPENSATIONAL VIEW OF DANIEL 9:24-27

Seventy Sevens Determined upon Thy PEOPLE and CITY



Jerusalem Rebuilt	Messiah Cut off	Tribulation Period	Kingdom Age
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